

USA MEDDAC Fort Irwin Safety Alert Message 15-002

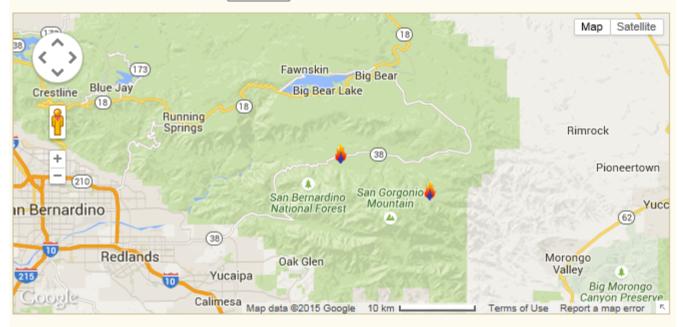
Lake Fire grows to 7,500 acres in Barton Flats area, air advisory issued

- A massive wildfire in the Barton Flats area of the San Bernardino National Forest has grown to 7,500 acres, prompting evacuations of local camps and road closures.
- Officials say the blaze, dubbed the Lake Fire, is about 5 percent contained as of noon Thursday.
- Fire officials say the fire is moving to the northeast, in open wilderness away from the Big Bear area, as of mid day Thursday.
- About 11 a.m., strong winds generated by the fire could be felt along Highway 38, and they dissipated approaching the Sugar Loaf area. As of noon, winds were calm but were picking up again as the fire made its way over a large ridge, according to fire officials.
- Most of the water drops appear to be concentrated on the Jenks Lake area.
- Highway 38 is closed at Middle Control Road, near Angeles Oaks, on the west and Hatchery Road on the east, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.
- The South Coast Air Quality Management District has issued a smoke advisory covering the eastern San Bernardino National Forest area, including Big Bear Lake.
- "Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors," the advisory read. "Keep windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Run your air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. To avoid worsening the health effects of wildfire smoke, don't use indoor or outdoor wood-burning appliances, including fireplaces."
- The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District also issued a smoke advisory. Yucca Valley, Morongo Valley, Lucerne Valley and surrounding communities are seeing an influx of smoke from the fire zone.
- Evacuations include areas east of Angelus Oaks, Onyx Summit, Barton Flats, Seven Oaks, and homes off of Rainbow Lane. The San Gorgonio Wilderness is closed.

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Approximate Location

34.16 latitude, -116.893 longitude reset view



Incident Overview

The Lake Fire was reported just before 4:00 pm on June 17, 2015. It is burning east of Camp de Benneville Pines south of Jenks Lake Road. Highway 38 is closed between Angelus Oaks to Lake Williams. Jenks Lake Road is closed as well.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. It is approximately 7,500 acres in size and burning in timber. It is currently 5% contained. Structures are threatened.

Evacuations include: Areas east of Angelus Oaks, Onyx Summit, Barton Flats, Seven Oaks, Heart Bar and homes off of Rainbow Lane.

All Hiking Trails into the San Gorgonio Wilderness Area have been closed due to the proximity of the fire to many hiking trails. The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) is closed from Whitewater Preserve to Onyx Summit.



Image options: [Enlarge] [Full Size]